

## LAND OFFICE STIRS STORM

Continued from Page One.

House to the Attorney General's office, where he held a two hours' conference with Mr. Wickham and Assistant Attorney General Lawler.

Mr. Ballinger declined to issue any statement on the ground that he had nothing to explain.

### Taft Sought Answer.

Kerby says in his statement that he was in Seattle with Secretary Ballinger last fall, when Ballinger got a letter from President Taft containing the Glavis charges and asking him for a reply to them. Secretary Ballinger immediately left for Washington with Don M. Carr, his secretary, and with Stenographer Kerby. Kerby says that they worked on their answer to the Glavis charges all the way across the continent and for several days after they got to Washington.

Secretary Ballinger and Lawler left on a Sunday for Beverly, and returned to Washington on the following Thursday. It was just after this, according to the stenographer, that Lawler took up his quarters in Ballinger's private office and began the dictation of the memorandum. Kerby says that the memorandum was written from the first in a form which was adopted by the secretary Ballinger if he so desired. Half a dozen drafts were made, so the stenographer said, before the final one.

Kerby says also that Lawler consulted with Secretary Ballinger, E. C. Finney, assistant to Secretary Ballinger, Commissioner Frederick Dennett, of the Land Office, Chief of the Field Service, and one or two others in regard to the letter. As Kerby recalls it, Secretary Ballinger himself read the letter, or one of the drafts, aloud and general criticism from the others was invited. Kerby says that Lawler instructed him to save all copies of the rough drafts.

### Stenographers in Conference.

"When we, Massey, another stenographer, and I, had finished preparing the final drafts, 'Massey' took the four copies of the final draft and fastened each. Massey then asked Lawler what disposition should be made of the rough drafts. Mr. Carr came into the room about that time. The four of us, Lawler, Carr, Massey, and myself, conferred as to what should be done with the rough drafts. Lawler said that it would not be safe to trust them to the waste basket. I think it was Carr who declared that they ought to be burned. It was decided to go to room 215 and destroy the papers in the grate there. There is a closed grate in the room, and I suppose that is the reason why the papers were not burned in the fireplace in the Secretary's room, where there is a big open grate.

"Well, we all went back to room 215. There were Lawler and Carr and Massey and myself. I can swear that Carr was there. The papers were put in the grate and somebody touched a match to them. I don't remember who it was that lighted the match. I think it was Carr. This was between 10 and 10:30 o'clock on the night of Friday, September 10.

"After burning up all traces of the drafts, we all went back into our offices, and the final finished copies were handed over to Mr. Lawler. I took the four copies with him into the Secretary's room. Now, I don't think that the Secretary witnessed the burning of the papers. I am pretty sure that he was around and in his room. At any rate, Mr. Lawler took the final copies into the Secretary's room."

### Burning is Admitted.

No denial of the fact that the rough drafts of the memorandum had been burned was made at the Interior Department. In fact, it was admitted they had been burned, but it was said that the only purpose in destroying them was to take precautions against any fragment of the letter being made public before the President acted and also against the possibility of the memorandum falling into the hands of Mr. Ballinger's enemies. The Kerby statement continues: "It was some time after this that

Carr came out into our room one day and stated to Massey and myself that Mr. Brandeis, who is counsel for Glavis, had made a call upon the Department of the Interior for correspondence which Ballinger had with Commissioner Dennett and stenographer's notebooks covering that period. I remember that the period covered the time during which Carr was private secretary to Dennett, and it was Carr's notebooks that Brandeis wanted. I remember I asked Carr if he had sent them to the committee. Carr said he had not, for he never kept his notebooks. I said, 'Well, I have never kept mine, either, but Massey has kept every notebook he ever used from the time he first went into the government service.' Carr said, in a laughing sort of way: 'Well, Massey, I think it would be a mighty good idea for you to lose those notebooks.'"

### Saw Garfield Recently.

Kerby said last night that he had seen former Secretary Garfield when he was in Washington a few weeks ago. "Did you intimate to him that you had some knowledge of the case that might prove interesting to the Pinchot side of the controversy?" he was asked.

"Well, no, not then," he replied, "but as a matter of fact, he knew what information I had in my possession."

"From whom did he obtain the information?"

"Well, I am not at liberty to say that," the stenographer said, that he expected to report for instructions at the Secretary of the Interior's office to-morrow morning. So far as he knew he still had his job.

"If Secretary Ballinger," said he, "thinks because I told the truth I am not a fit person to be in the service, he is at liberty to dismiss me. I guess he may fire me."

"What is your motive in coming out with a statement?" the stenographer was asked.

He replied that he was inspired by a sense of public duty. He felt that the country had been misled in regard to the President's letter, and he felt it incumbent upon him to set the record straight in his possession.

He was asked if the parties who had induced him to make the disclosures had promised any reward.

"None at all," said he. "But I had the personal assurance of others interested in the investigation that they would find me a job."

He is only twenty-four years old, he married, and has a family.

It is expected that Attorney Brandeis will ask the committee to call both him and Massey as witnesses.

H. H. Schwartz, chief of the field division of the General Land Office, was a witness before the investigating committee. He has assumed responsibility for many of the acts that have been blamed upon Secretary Ballinger, but Attorney Brandeis showed no disposition to question him along this line, and dismissed him with one unimportant question.

Commissioner Fred Dennett, of the General Land Office, and E. C. Finney, Assistant to Secretary Ballinger, two men who were named by Stenographer Kerby as having been consulted by Lawler in regard to his memorandum, denied on the witness stand before the Ballinger-pinchot committee that they had had anything to do with the preparation of the memorandum.

"The statement that I was present at a conference when the Lawler memorandum was considered is a lie," said Mr. Finney with considerable emphasis.

**CAPT. BARTON TO RETIRE.**  
Former Chief Engineer of Navy Re-  
lieved from Duty.

Capt. John K. Barton, U. S. N., has been detached from his present duty as a member of the naval examining board and has been ordered to his home.

He will be placed on the retired list as a rear admiral. Capt. Barton was formerly engineer-in-chief of the Navy, Capt. W. N. Parks, U. S. N., will succeed him as a member of the naval examining board.

Capt. Parks is now on duty at the New York Navy Yard. Commander George E. Bird has been transferred from the Boston to the New York yard.

**CHINESE LOAN ASSURED.**  
United States Will Have Quarter Share in Transaction.

It was announced at the State Department yesterday that the Chinese railroad loan which has been hanging fire for about a year had been finally settled, and its success was assured.

England, France, Germany, and the United States will participate in equal shares in the loan which will amount to about \$20,000,000.

**NOTRE DAME HOLDS CONTEST.**  
University to Give \$1,000 for Religious Educational Theme.

The sum of \$1,000 has been intrusted to the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, in charge of the congregation of the Holy Cross, to be offered for the best manuscript dealing practically with the question of religion in education.

The contest for this prize is open to all persons in all countries of the world, and without regard to age, sex, or creed. The theme is, "How may the religious element in the general education of children and youths be most effectively promoted?"

Manuscripts must contain not fewer than 2,000 words. Each contestant must sign his manuscript with his pen name and address it to Max Pam Prize Contest, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind.

**D. A. R. Held Officers.**  
A meeting was held at the Arlington Thursday, May 12, by the Sarah Franklin Chapter, D. A. R., and the following officers were elected: Regent, Mrs. C. D. Merwin; vice regent, Mrs. E. P. Jones; recording secretary, Mrs. J. E. Alexander; corresponding secretary, Mrs. M. A. Winter; treasurer, Mrs. H. E. Hall; registrar, Mrs. J. E. Mulvaney; parliamentarian, Miss Ada Garrett; chaplain, Mrs. J. Slaughter.

**Lame Man Missing from Home.**  
John L. Brophy has been missing from his home, 24 Bates street northwest, since yesterday morning, and the police have been asked to find him. He is seventy-nine years old, is lame, and walks with a cane.

**Negroes to Hear Ballinger.**  
Secretary Ballinger will address a mass meeting of colored citizens this afternoon at 2:15 o'clock in the interest of the campaign for \$15,000 to complete the branch building of the colored Y. M. C. A.

# Giddings & Steele Stock Furniture and Floor Coverings

Floor Coverings Purchased—  
Stored Free Until Fall.

PURCHASED BY  
**W. B. MOSES & SONS**

Refrigerators and  
Baby Carriages Reduced.

To be sold at the greatest values of the year—All New High-grade Stocks Furniture for Parlor, Dining Room, and Bed Room—Rugs, Carpets, Matting, and Linoleum.

Giddings & Steele, retiring from business (at 813 Pa. Ave.), have sold to us their stocks of high-grade Furniture and Carpets, Rugs, Matting, and Linoleums—accepting our offer at figures which enable us to offer you remarkable price inducements with the Moses guarantee back of every article offered. We can list only a very few of the hundreds of items. All new 1910 stocks. A deposit reserves any article for later delivery.

## A Few of the Many Values in Floor Coverings of Every Description

Bordered Carpet Rugs.			Axminster Hall Runners.			Axminster Rugs.			Homestead, Log Cabin, and Ye Olde Tyme Rugs.			Royal Selvedge Smyrna Rugs.			
Size.	Kind.	G. & S. price.	Our price.	Size.	G. & S. price.	Our price.	Size.	G. & S. price.	Our price.	Size.	G. & S. price.	Our price.	Size.	G. & S. price.	Our price.
8.3x12	Tapestry Brussels Rugs	\$21.60	\$13.95	2 ft. 3x9 ft.	\$5.00	\$3.85	4 ft. 6x8 ft. 6.	\$7.50	\$5.45	Light and Easy to Handle—Washable Summer Rugs.			18x36 in.	\$9.75	\$9.59
8.3x10.5	Tapestry Brussels Rugs	28.50	15.50	2 ft. 3x10 ft. 6.	5.50	4.65	4 ft. 6x12 ft.	12.50	16.75				18x45 in.	1.75	1.45
8.3x10.5	Tapestry Brussels Rugs	22.60	15.25	3 ft. 3x12 ft.	7.00	5.20	6x9 ft.	12.50	10.45				26x54 in.	2.00	1.90
8.3x14	Tapestry Brussels Rugs	22.60	15.25	3 ft. 3x10 ft. 6.	9.00	6.75	8 ft. 3x10 ft. 6.	20.00	13.55				30x60 in.	2.50	1.45
8.3x14	Tapestry Brussels Rugs	22.60	17.25	3 ft. 3x12 ft.	9.00	7.89	9 ft. 3x12 ft.	25.00	18.95						
8.3x14	Tapestry Brussels Rugs	22.60	17.25				10 ft. 6x12 ft.	25.00	28.45						
8.3x14	Tapestry Brussels Rugs	22.60	17.25				11 ft. 3x15 ft.	45.00	37.75						
8.3x14	Tapestry Brussels Rugs	22.60	17.25				27x60 in.	2.50	1.85						
8.3x14	Tapestry Brussels Rugs	22.60	17.25				36x70 in.	4.50	3.15						
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